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PASUGUAN NG PILIPINAS

EMBASSY OF THE PHILIPPINES

28 May 1991

Ms. **Megan** Marshall
Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Policy and International Affairs
Department of Transportation
400 7th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Ms. Marshall:

This has reference to Public law 101-604 enacted in November 16, 1990 requiring passenger manifest information such as full name, passport number, contact telephone number, and contact person for each passenger boarding a U.S. airline.

While we are aware that this new law would apply to American airlines, we have been informed that the U.S. Department of Transportation is considering the application of this rule to foreign airlines as well.

The Philippine Airlines (PAL) has expressed its concern that, once adopted, the new requirement will force it to conduct tedious airport check procedures, particularly at the check-in counter where longer queuing and transaction time for each individual passenger is expected. In addition, the required gathering of additional information from passengers will require costly modification of PAL's computerized Departure Control System (DCS) currently in place at Manila's Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

We are relaying these concerns to your office in order that the PAL's side will be taken into account in any **decision-**making process that will seek to apply the requirements of this law to foreign airlines. At this time, implementation of the law towards PAL, will put it at a disadvantage and will further strain its limited resources.

Your kind consideration would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN M. EBDALIN
Deputy Chief of Mission